

EÖTVÖS LORÁND TUDOMÁNYEGYETEM
Bölcsészettudományi Kar
Új- és Jelenkori Magyar
Törtéti Tanszék

1088 Budapest, Múzeum krt. 6–8.

☎ +36 1 485-5204

☎ +36 1 485-5204

✉ varga.zsuzsanna@btk.elte.hu



EÖTVÖS LORÁND UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Humanities
Department of Modern and
Contemporary Hungarian History

H-1088 Budapest, Múzeum krt. 6–8.

☎ +36 1 485-5204

☎ +36 1 485-5204

✉ varga.zsuzsanna@btk.elte.hu

REVIEW

on the MA Study Program in “History and Archaeology” at the Ferenc Rákóczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian University

The master's degree program in “History and Archaeology”, developed in 2026 by the Department of History and Social Sciences at the Ferenc Rákóczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian University, fully meets the methodological expectations of contemporary historical and archaeological research. It is particularly important that the training program does not treat history as an isolated academic unit, but as an organic part of the Central and Eastern European region, taking into account modern source-critical and historiographical trends. The logical structure of the curriculum ensures a balance between theoretical foundations (e.g., “Theory and Practice of History”) and practical specialization.

One of the greatest strengths of the MA program is the academic-level integration of local and regional identity. Transcarpathia – as one of the oldest inhabited, multicultural, and denominationally diverse regions of present-day Ukraine – offers an unparalleled field for research. The study program excellently utilizes this attribute through various subjects and practices: the course “*Natural Science Methods in Archaeology*” enables the modern processing of the region’s rich archaeological sites; the subjects “*20th-Century National Traumas in Central Europe*” and “*History of Sovietization in Central and Eastern Europe*” are essential for understanding local social processes and historical memory. It is also important to highlight that the university’s close cooperation with local museums and other institutions ensures that students come into direct contact with the region’s written and material heritage.

The training goes beyond classical descriptive historiography. Studies such as the relationship between state and church or modern historical research methods enable students to analyze complex social phenomena. The high number of credits allocated for archaeological and archival practices deserves special mention, as it guarantees that graduates will possess not only theoretical knowledge but also confident source-handling techniques. Another significant achievement of the program is its ability to prepare students for subsequent doctoral studies. The substantial number of credits dedicated to the preparation of the diploma thesis and to scientific research practice shows that the institution places great emphasis on developing an independent researcher attitude. Students become capable of joining international scientific discourse, which is also crucial for strengthening scientific networks within the Carpathian Basin.

It should also be emphasized that students enrolled in the “History and Archaeology” study programme regularly participate in full-semester Erasmus+ mobility programmes at Eötvös Loránd University. These mobility opportunities significantly contribute to students’ academic development, broaden their international research experience, and facilitate their integration into

the wider European scientific and research environment. Academic staff involved in the programme also actively participate in Erasmus+ research mobilities, through which they acquire up-to-date methodological knowledge, establish international research collaborations, and engage in European scientific networks. The research experiences and professional connections gained in Budapest are directly incorporated into the continuous development of the study programme, strengthening its international orientation and alignment with the ESG (Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area). As a result, the programme demonstrates a strong level of compatibility with the European Higher Education and Research Area, while also ensuring that students and researchers operate within a modern, internationally competitive academic environment.

The “History and Archaeology” master's program at the Ferenc Rákóczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian University is a modern, professionally authentic, and regionally committed training. The program combines European scientific standards with a profound knowledge of local specificities, thus producing valuable professionals not only for the local labour market (education, museology, archives) but also for the international scientific community.



Professor Dr. Zsuzsanna Varga
Head of Department of
Modern and Contemporary Hungarian History
Eötvös Loránd University

Place, date: Budapest, May 5, 2026